

Legislative Fiscal Bureau

Fiscal Note

HF 2620 – School Board and Other Election Law Changes (LSB 5403 HV)

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Fiscal Note Version – New

Requested by Representative Mary Gaskill

Description

House File 2620 makes numerous changes to election laws. The Bill takes effect on enactment.

- Division I provides for school elections, including community colleges, to be conducted in odd-numbered calendar years. These elections are currently conducted annually and the cost of the elections is passed from the counties to the local entities. The Bill also increases the terms of school board directors from three to four years and provides a transition process, beginning with the September 2010 elections.
- Division II permits county commissioners to set up vote centers for city and school elections and permits voters to vote at any location within a jurisdiction if vote centers are established.
- Division III limits special election dates for public measures and provides specific dates for special elections.
- Division IV makes changes to voter registration provisions and permits ballots to be cast by voters that are in line to register to vote at the time the polls close.
- Division V makes changes to voter challenge provisions and updates provisional ballot forms to comply with election day registration.
- Division VI makes general changes to election provisions.
- Division VII requires the Ethics and Campaign Disclosure Board to establish procedures for reviewing county redistricting plans to determine if the plan was established for improper political reasons.

Assumptions

- The cost for conducting school elections, including community colleges, in FY 2007 was approximately \$1.0 million.
- The future cost of conducting school elections will be approximately \$1.0 million annually.
- The Bill provides for a transition to biennial elections beginning with the September 2009 elections. The first year a school election would not be held would be September 2010 (FY 2011).

Fiscal Impact

Division I will result in an estimated savings for school districts and community colleges of at least \$1.0 million in FY 2011 and every other subsequent fiscal year.

Division III is anticipated to result in an annual savings to local units of government to reflect the reduced number of special elections that will be held. However, the savings cannot be determined.

Other Divisions of this Bill are not expected to have a significant fiscal impact on the State or local government budgets.

Source

Secretary of State

/s/ Holly M. Lyons

March 13, 2008

The fiscal note and correction impact statement for this bill was prepared pursuant to Joint Rule 17 and pursuant to Section 2.56, Code of Iowa. Data used in developing this fiscal note and correctional impact statement are available from the Legislative Fiscal Bureau to members of the Legislature upon request.
